

Message Text

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ACTION EA-09

INFO OCT-01 EUR-12 IO-11 ISO-00 CIAE-00 DODE-00 PM-04 H-02

INR-07 L-03 NSAE-00 NSC-05 PA-01 PRS-01 SP-02 SS-15

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R 280327Z JAN 76

FM AMEMBASSY CANBERRA

TO SECSTATE WASHDC 7358

INFO AMEMBASSY JAKARTA

AMEMBASSY KUALA LUMPUR

AMEMBASSY LISBON

AMEMBASSY LONDON

USMISSION USUN NEW YORK

AMEMBASSY PORT MORESBY

CINCPAC

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CINCPAC FOR POLAD

E.O. 11652: N/A

TAGS: AS, PT, PFOR

SUBJECT: TIMOR

1. REACTING TO CRITICISM THAT THE GOA HAD GIVEN IN TO INDONESIAN PRESSURE IN DENYING ASSISTANCE TO UN REPRESENTATIVE WINSPEARE-GUICCIARDI TO REACH FRETILIN-HELD AREAS IN EAST TIMOR, FONMIN PEACOCK ON JAN 27 SAID THAT SAFETY QUESTIONS AND THE UNCERTAINTIES OF THE SECURITY SITUATION PRECLUDED THE SENDING OF ANY AUSTRALIAN AIRCRAFT INTO THE WAR ZONE IN TIMOR. FONMIN PEACOCK WENT ON TO ADD "NEVERTHELESS, THE GOVERNMENT HOPED THAT ACCEPTABLE ARRANGEMENTS COULD BE MADE FOR THE UN SPECIAL REPRESENTATIVE TO VISIT FRETILIN AREAS AND TO MAKE CONTACT WITH FRETILIN LEADERS IN EAST TIMOR. AUSTRALIA'S AMBASSADOR IN INDONESIA HAD BEEN ASKED TO REINFORCE THIS VIEW IN JAKARTA."

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2. PEACOCK ALSO REPORTEDLY INSTRUCTED AMB WOOLCOTT TO SUGGEST TO

INDONESIAN AUTHORITIES THAT THEY FLY WINSPEARE TO THE OFFSHORE ISLAND OF AUTARO SO THAT HE CAN BE TAKEN TO THE FRETILIN ZONE BY ONE OF THE TWO PORTUGUESE CORVETTES STILL IN THE AREA. IN HIS STATEMENT THE FONMIN STRONGLY DENIED THAT THERE WAS ANY BASIS TO ALLEGATIONS THAT AUSTRALIA WAS FRUSTRATING THE MISSION OF THE UN SPECIAL REPRESENTATIVE.

3. COMMENT: PRO-FRETILIN ELEMENTS IN AUSTRALIA CLAIMED THAT A HIGH-LEVEL SOURCE IN DFA "CONFIRMED" THAT FONMIN PEACOCK HAD AGREED DURING HIS RECENT MEETINGS WITH FONMIN MALIK IN INDONESIA TO BLOCK WINSPEARE'S ATTEMPT TO REACH FRETILIN-HELD AREAS IN TIMOR FROM AUSTRALIAN TERRITORY. PEACOCK STRONGLY DENIES THIS ALLEGATION, BOTH PUBLICLY AND PRIVATELY, BUT HE REMAINS CONCERNED ABOUT THE NUMEROUS LEAKS ON THE TIMOR QUESTION COMING OUT OF DFA. END COMMENT.

PERCIVAL

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